

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 05162 051014Z

17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 OPIC-03 SAM-01 AF-06 OMB-01 MC-02

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 LAB-04 SIL-01

/099 W

----- 107826

R 041608Z SEP 75 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4115
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AEMBASSY BONN 1576
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW YPP
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
DIA WASHDC
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS BEL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 5162

E.O. 11652: N/A

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 05162 051014Z

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: MARIO SOARES PROPOSES GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL SALVATION

REF: LISBON 5128 DTG 031646Z SEP 75 NOTAL

SUMMARY: IN AN IMPORTANT POLICY STATEMENT SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER MARIO SOARES CALLED FOR A GOVERNMENT OF UNITY AND NATIONAL SALVATION TO BE FORMED BY THE SOCIALISTS, PPD, AND PCP, WITH PARTICIPATION OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY INDEPENDENTS. OARES REJECTED THE PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF EX-PRIME MINISTER VASCO GONCALVES AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF ARMED FORCES AND DESCRIBED HOW THE PCP HAS USED GONCALVES AND THE AFM IN ITS ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE "TOTALITARIAN SOCIALISM." TEN EMERGENCY MEASURES WERE LISTED WHICH ARE "INDISPENSIBLE" FOR SOCIALIST PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY

1. SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER MARIO SOARES PUBLISHED ON SEPTEMBER 3 THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE SOCIALISTS WOULD AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN A NEW "GOVERNMENT OF UNITY AND NATIONAL SALVATION." THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THE SOARES STATEMENT TO BE AN IMPORTANT PROPOSAL BASED ON A REMARKABLY DISPASSIONATE AND OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT. HIGH POINTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

-- SOARES LETTER IS IN RESPONSE TO CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES AND AN INVITATION BY PRIME MINISTER (DESIGNATE) PINHEIRO DE AZEVEDO TO PARTICIPATE IN SIXTH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD BE "PREDOMINATELY SOCIALIST."

-- SOCIALISTS CLAIM CURRENT POLITICAL CRISIS AROSE BECAUSE OF DEVIATIONS FROM THE ORIGINAL PROGRAM SET FORTH BY THE ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM), AND FROM THE AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN THE AFM AND THE POLITICAL PARTIES. BOTH DOCUMENTS CALLED FOR A DEMOCRATIC, PLURALISTIC ROAD TOWARD SOCIALISM.

-- HOWEVER, ONE FACTION OF AFM, MANIPULATED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP), ATTEMPTED TO IMPOSE TOTALITARIAN SOCIALISM BY THE ACTIONS OF A PSEUDO-REVOLUTIONARY VANGUARD, THUS IGNORING THE POPULAR WILL AS EXPRESSED IN FREE ELECTIONS. INITIALLY UNDER COVER OF THE APOLITICAL AFM, THIS PCP FACTION TOOK OVER THE STATE-

OWNED INFORMATION MEDIA, INFILTRATED THE GOVERNMENT BUREAUCRACY, TOOK THE KEY POSITIONS IN NATIONALIZED INDUSTRIES, AGRARIAN REFORM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, THE INFORMATION MEDIA, AND ATTEMPTED TO DOMINATE THE LABOR UNIONS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LISBON 05162 051014Z

-- IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT THERE IS RESENTMENT BY SUPPORTERS OF THE MAJORITY PARTIES (WHO RECEIVED 70 PERCENT OF THE VOTE) AGAINST THE DOMINATION OF POWER BY PCP (12.5 PERCENT).
-- PORTUGUESE PEOPLE WILL NOT ACCEPT A COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP. EITHER SOME FORM OF PLURALISTIC COMPROMISE IS FOUND (WITH PCP HAVING NO MORE THAN ITS PROPORTIONAL SHARE) OR ELSE THE PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION IS VULNERABLE TO ATTACKS BY COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ELEMENTS.

-- VASCO GONCALVES AND HIS SUPPORTING ELEMENTS (J-5, MDP/CDE, INTERSINDICAL, MES) SYMBOLIZE THE COMMUNIST ADVANCE. FOR THIS REASON THE SOCIALIST PARTY BELIEVED IT ESSENTIAL THAT PRIME MINISTER GONCALVES BE OUSTED. HIS APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES WOULD ONLY AGGRAVATE THE CRISIS, NOT RESOLVE IT. HE WAS DIVISIVE AS PRIME MINISTER BUT WOULD BE MORE SO AS CHIEF OF STAFF, AS IS EVIDENT BY OPPOSITION TO HIS APPOINTMENT FROM THE AIR FORCE, THE OFFSHORE ISLANDS, THE AFM IN ANGOLA, AND THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN MILITARY COMMANDS. HE LACKS THE MILITARY QUALIFICATIONS. FURTHER, GONCALVES WOULD GAIN IN POWER AT THE EXPENSE OF PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES (WHO NOW HOLDS THE DUAL FUNCTION AS CHIEF OF STAFF).

-- THE ESSENTIAL PREREQUISITE IS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GOVERNMENT THAT CAN GOVERN. CIVIL POLER NEEDS THE SUPPORT OF THE MILITARY BUT THE AFM IS SO DISORGANIZED THAT EACH OF MANY GROUPS CLAIM TO SPEAK FOR ARMED FORCES. PRIME MINISTER PINHEIRO DE AZEVEDO COULD LEAD A HISTORIC TURN-AROUND WHICH IMPLIES THE TOTAL REPLACEMENT OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

-- THE SOCIALISTS PROPOSE A GOVERNMENT OF UNITY AND NATIONAL SALVATION BASED ON AN UNDERSTANDING AMONG DEMOCRATIC PARTIES, WITH A ROLE FOR THE PCP IF IT RENOUNCES ITS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN POWER BY FORCE. THE SOCIALIST PARTY DOES NOT SEEK A PREDOMINANT ROLE. THE PROPOSED GOVERNMENT WOULD INCLUDE PS, PDD, PCP, AS WELL AS CIVILIAN AND MILITARY INDEPENDENTS.

-- MOST IMPORTANTLY, THERE MUST BE A DISTINCTION MADE BETWEEN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY RESPONSIBILITIES, WITH THE GOVERNMENT BEING ALLOWED TO GOVERN WITHOUT UNWARRANTED INTERFERENCE BY THE AFM.

2. SOARES ALSO PROPOSES TEN "SEEMINGLY INDISPENSIBLE" EMERGENCY MEASURES OF WHICH THE FOLLOWING ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT:

(A) ASSURE THE POLITICAL PLURALISM OF STATE-OWNED MEDIA AND ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 LISBON 05162 051014Z

(B) REAFFIRM THE AUTHORITY OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, ASSURING THAT ONCE CONSTITUTION IS APPROVED THAT ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD WITHIN 60 DAYS TO CHOOSE A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND THAT THE ASSEMBLY WILL CREATE A GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE TO IT.

(C) FIX DATE FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS NO LATER THAN JANUARY 31, 1976.

(D) WORKERS COMMISSIONS AND NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS SHOULD NOT CONSTITUTE A PARALLEL POWER STRUCTURE AND SHOULD ASSURE MEMBERS' RIGHT OF SECRET VOTE.

(E) ARMED MILITIAS SHOULD BE ELIMINATED WITHIN 30 DAYS.

(F) TRADE UNION DEMOCRACY.

3. SOARES STATEMENT EMPHASIZED THAT THE SOCIALISTS ARE NOT ATTEMPTING TO BRAKE THE REVOLUTION NOR RE-ESTABLISH CAPITALISM THROUGH SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC SOLUTIONS. RATHER, IT IS AN EFFORT

TO CONSOLIDATE REVOLUTIONARY CONQUESTS - PRINCIPALLY THE BUSINESS
NATIONALIZATIONS AND AGRARIAN REFORM - WHILE AVOIDING "STATE
CAPITALISM" (E.E., COMMUNISM).
CARLUCCI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLITICAL LEADERS, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON05162
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750307-0480
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750984/aaaacwtd.tel
Line Count: 173
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 5128
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARIO SOARES PROPOSES GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL SALVATION
TAGS: PINT, PO, (SOARES, MARIO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006